



1941



MED. INTEL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

WHITSTABLE.

25th July, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the

WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillor Mrs Phillips and Gentlemen,

I have to present to you my twelfth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Whitstable.

Area of Urban District	...	...	...	...	8,283 acres.
" " " " (before 1934)	...	...	...	...	. 794 "
Population at Census 1931...	...	...	...	...	10,820.
" (estimated mid-1939)	...	...	...	...	15,620.
" (estimated mid-1941)	...	...	...	...	12,240.
Number of Houses 1931.	...	...	...	...	3,466.
" " Inhabited houses 1931..	...	...	...	...	3,105.
" " Houses, 1941 c....	...	...	...	...	5,896.
" " Inhabited houses 1941..	...	...	...	...	4,996.
" " Families or Separate Occupiers (1931)	...	...	...	...	3,327.
Rateable Value 1940	...	...	...	...	£139,681.
" " 1941	...	...	...	...	£139,626.
Sum represented by a penny rate 1939	...	...	...	...	£524.
" " " " 1941	...	...	...	...	£423.

AREA. - The area of the Urban District is 8,283 acres, made up as follows:-

Old	(Central Ward	...	...	...	78 acres
Urban	(East Ward	...	...	...	422 "
Area	(West Ward	...	...	...	294 "
	Swalecliffe,	...	...	...	927 "
	Whitstable-cum-Seasalter	...	...	...	4,350 "
	Dunkirk (part)	...	...	...	936 "
	Graveney (part)	...	...	...	886 "
	Hernhill (part)	...	...	...	390 "
	TOTAL.				<u>8,283</u> "

POPULATION. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for mid-1941 is 12,240, for mid-1940 it was 14,160, and for mid-1939, 15,620. Actually, this year the population is about the same as last, and according to Food Rationing statistics I estimate it to be 12,447.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1940.
<u>Live Births.</u>	157.	83.	74.	145.
Legitimate.	148.	80.	68.	
Illegitimate.	9.	3.	6.	8.
<u>Still Births.</u>	4.	2.	2.	8.
Legitimate.	4.	2.	2.	
Illegitimate.	-	-	-	

The Birth Rate per 1,000 population is:-

		Rate for 1940.
Live Births ...	12.8	10.2
Still Births ...	0.32	0.58

DEATHS.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total for 1940.
	237.	108.	129.	248.

The death rate per 1,000 population is:-

		Rate for 1940.
Crude death rate ...	19.3 ...	17.5

Adjusted death rate. - 11.7.
Comparability Factors.

The adjustment by such factors has been suspended under present conditions. The extent to which the population has moved from place to place, and the uneven incidents of civilian war deaths have combined to defeat any attempt to secure comparability between local death rates. The death rate given, therefore, is an unadjusted death rate.

CAUSES OF DEATH FOR 1941:-

	Males	Females		Males	Females
Whooping Cough	1	-	Bronchitis	6	5
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	3	3	Pneumonia	1	2
Other forms of T.B.	-	1	Other respiratory diseases	2	-
Syphilitic diseases	2	1	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	-
Influenza	2	6	Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	-
Cancer of buc.cav. and Oesophagus(M)	2	-	Other digestive diseases	-	-
Uterus (f)	-	3	Nephritis	3	4
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	Puerpural & post-abort: sepsis	-	1
Cancer of Breast	-	3	Premature births	-	1
Cancer of all other sites	15	17	Accident(traffic)	1	2
Diabetes	2	-	Other violent causes	8	2
Intra-cran:vascular lesions	11	18	All other causes	19	10
Heart Disease	22	38			
Other diseases of circulatory system	-	2			

ALL CAUSES

MALES 108

FEMALES 129

Year	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Respiratory Diseases	Influenza	Cancer	Heart and Circulatory	All Causes
1932	3	6	7	4	19	56	138
1933	3	9	5	14	21	61	176
1934	4	8	15	2	35	74	196
1935	2	7	11	-	34	82	186
1936	1	8	12	-	32	71	197
1937	-	10	9	8	30	75	195
1938	1	10	11	4	35	97	312
1939	-	8	11	13	54	110	269
1940	1	10	17	6	30	80	248
1941	1	7	19	8	46	62	237

The transferred deaths were:-

Inward ... 58.

Outward ... 3.

The age distribution of total deaths was:-

Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	2 - 5 years	5 - 15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65 and upwards
3	2	Nil	1	1	17	40	173

Of the deaths over 65, 35 were between the ages of 65 and 70, 76 between 70 and 80, 48 between 80 and 90, and 14 over 90.

Deaths from all causes show a slight decrease on the figure for 1940, and on the reduced population, and without adjustment by a comparability factor, the crude death rate of 19.3 would appear to be high. The causes of death which show an increase over last year are syphilitic diseases, influenza, and cancer, and those showing a reduction are deaths from violence, heart disease, nephritis, and general digestive diseases. Deaths from violence included seven war deaths.

MATERNAL MORTALITY. There was one death from puerperal causes, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate per thous and births (live and still) of 0.61. This is the first year since 1936 that there has been a death in child-birth.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. Deaths of infants under one year were as follows :-

	Total.	Males.	Females.	(Totals for 1940)
Legitimate	3.	2.	1.	(8).
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(1).

Infantile Mortality Rates are as follows:-

	(Rates for 1940)
All Infants per 1,000 live births,	18.9 (61.6)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	20.1 (58.)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births,	0.00 (125.)

TABLE OF BIRTH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR
CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1941.

	(1) WHITSTABLE	(2) England & Wales	(3) 126 County Boro's & Great Towns includ- ing London	(4) 148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	(5) London Admin- istrative County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population					
BIRTHS.					
Live	12.8	14.2	14.7	16.4	8.9
Still	0.32	0.51	0.58	0.60	0.33
DEATHS.					
All Causes	19.3	12.9	14.9	13.0	16.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.04
Diphtheria	0.00	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.03
Influenza	0.65	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
NOTIFICATIONS:-					
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.00	0.25	0.31	0.20	0.30
Scarlet Fever	2.12	1.47	1.49	1.51	1.01
Whooping Cough	3.02	4.39	4.37	4.50	3.50
Diphtheria	0.24	1.25	1.53	1.19	0.93
Erysipelas	0.08	0.30	0.36	0.27	0.50
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	1.22	10.33	8.27	10.47	4.77
Pneumonia	0.98	1.25	1.53	1.04	1.07
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.04
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.09	0.12	0.09	0.05

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

Deaths under 1 yr of age	18.9	59	71	56	63
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	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	6.3	5.1	7.5	4.6	6.8

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still)

Maternal Mortality:- (Excluding Abortion)					
Puerperal Infection (No.147)	0.00	0.48)		
Others	0.61	1.75	)	NOT AVAILABLE	
Total	0.61	2.23)		

NOTIFICATIONS:-

Puerperal Fever)					(2.29
)	0.00	11.91	15.64	9.43	{
" Pyrexia)					x {19.3

x Including puerperal fever.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The staff engaged on Public Health work consists of myself, Medical Officer of Health, part-time; Mr.C.R.A.Martin, Chief Sanitary Inspector; Messrs.C.A.Tilley and P.K.Marsh, General Assistants.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Arrangements remain as described in previous reports.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Council have now taken over all the functions of the Voluntary Ambulance Committee, and a most efficient service is now carried on under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, full details of which are to be found in his report.

NURSING HOMES.

The two Nursing Homes, St.Helier's and Westgate, have carried on throughout the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Joint Isolation Hospital, Herne Bay, continues to receive all infectious disease patients from the district.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Routine samples of the public water supply are taken for chemical and bacteriological examination, as well as in areas where sewers and water mains have been damaged by high explosives. In no case has there been anything abnormal to report. The water supply has been sufficient and satisfactory throughout the area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A few instances of sewer flooding have occurred during the year, but much less serious than in the years before the War. With the shortage of labour it is difficult to suggest routine sewer cleansing and flushing at this period, but I think special attention should be given to those lengths of sewers which, from past knowledge, are more likely to silt up and give rise to nuisances than other sections of the sewerage system, more self-cleansing and with greater fall.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS & RE-INSPECTIONS.....	2857
INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.....	260
" " SLAUGHTER HOUSES.....	12
" " SHOPS.....	32
" " WORKSHOPS.....	92
" " BAKEHOUSES.....	34
" " DAIRIES & COWSHEDS.....	56
" " VAN DWELLINGS, etc.....	295
" " AIR RAID SHELTERS.....	798
VISITS TO INFECTED HOUSES.....	132
" " WORKS IN PROGRESS.....	259
MISCELLANEOUS VISITS.....	842
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.....	106

INSPECTIONS OF WORKSHOPS, FACTORIES, Etc.

	Inspections.	Notices served.
WORKSHOPS.....	70	6
FACTORIES.....	22	
	<u>92</u>	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	92	6
NUMBER OF DEFECTS FOUND.....	6	
" " " REMEDIED.....	6	

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	1941.	1940.	1939.	1938.	1937.
Scarlet Fever	26.	48.	9.	10.	23.
Diphtheria	3.	2.	7.	6.	17.
Enteric fever	-	-	4.	3.	-
Erysipelas	1.	4.	10.	5.	2.
Pneumonia	12.	10.	33.	21.	22.
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	7.	3.	8.	17.	8.
" (other forms)	4.	4.	5.	6.	8.
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	1.	1.	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	1.	4.	1.	-
Puerperal fever)					
" Pyrexia)	-	1.	-	1.	-
Measles	15	5.	5.	142.	1.
Whooping cough	37.	5.	9.	3.	51.

During 1940 it was found that the increased incidence of scarlet fever was undoubtedly due to the use of public air raid shelters, and families sleeping all together in ground floor rooms. Although aerial activity last year was on a much reduced scale, and public air raid shelters practically unused, families continued to sleep under more or less overcrowded conditions in steel shelters, and this was responsible for most of the cases of scarlet fever, whooping cough and measles. There were two "return" cases of scarlet fever, and of the three cases of diphtheria, none of which had been subjected to immunization treatment, one was introduced from outside the district.

Diphtheria Immunization. During the year the First Aid Post, Cromwell Road North, was used as a clinic for the immunization of school-children, local practitioners carrying out the work in turn, at a fee of 2/6d per child. The cost to the Council was £125.15.0d. Children under five years were treated at the Child Welfare Clinic by Dr. Barker. The following are details of the numbers so treated:

Under 5.	5 and over but under 15.	Total.
126.	783.	909.

One injection only:-

Under 5.	5 and over but under 15.	
11.	21.	32.

Percentage of other population immunized:-

Estimated population of children under 5.	640.
5 and over but under 15,	1620.

(Continued:)

NOTIFIED DURING 1941.

DISEASE	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 - 5 years	5 -15 years	15 - 25 years	25 - 45 years	45 - 65 years	65 and upwards	Cases notified in each Ward						Cases Removed to Hospital
									East Ward	Central Ward	West Ward	Seasalter East	Seasalter West	Swalecliffe	
Scarlet Fever	26	-	9	14	2	1	-	-	5	4	16	1	-	1	20
Diphtheria	3	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	3
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	17	-	-	-	2	2	2	1	2	2	3	1	-	1	-
" (Other forms)	4	-	-	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	12	-	2	2	2	6	1	-	3	2	2	1	-	1	-
Measles	15	-	6	5	1	2	1	-	4	3	5	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	37	4	18	15	-	-	-	-	6	14	14	-	-	-	-

	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary TOTAL
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at commencement of 1941	24	33	11	22	90
Number of cases notified under the Regulations for the first time during 1941	3	4	1	3	11
Number of cases restored to the Register	-	-	-	-	-
Other additions	-	1	-	-	1
Number of cases removed from the Register during 1941	4	11	3	2	20
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of 1941	22	28	9	23	82

Under 5. 5 & over
but under 15.
20%. 49%
1.5%. 1.2%.

Percentage complete course of immunization,
" started but not completed course,

The percentages can only be approximate, since the extent to which the child population has been evacuated is unknown.

T U B E R C U L O S I S.
New Cases & Mortality, 1941.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 -15 years	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
15-25 years	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35 years	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
35-45 years	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
45-55 years	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
55-65 years	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 years & up	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	3	4	1	3	3	3	-	1

There was one death from tuberculosis during the year, which had not been previously notified.

No evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from tuberculosis is noticeable in any particular occupation in the district. The number of notifications of tuberculosis during the War years is much less than before the War.

C O N C L U S I O N.

1941 has been no less difficult a year than its predecessor. New duties crowd upon one another, and have to be sandwiched in with essential work. All Officers, as well as my colleagues in the Medical Profession, appreciate that this must of necessity continue during the War, but I feel I must take this opportunity of voicing the resentment of everyone to the inordinate amount of form filling and general clerical work that can add nothing to the impetus of the War Effort. I am grateful to Mr. Martin and the members of his Department for all the work they are doing, and to him especially for the cordial co-operation and assistance which he has never failed to give me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES E. ETHERIDGE, M.B., M.R.C.S.,

L.R.C.P., Medical Officer of Health.

The Castle,
Whitstable.

25th July 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the
WHITSTABLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillor Mrs Phillips and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eighteenth Annual
Report of the work carried out by my department during the
year 1941.

1. GENERAL.

Number of Inspections	...	...	2157		
" " Reinspections	...	...	700	Total ...	2857
" " Complaints received	...				191
" " Notices served to execute works:-					
Preliminary	...	...	104		
Statutory	...	...	2	Total ...	106
" " Notices complied with by persons responsible (including those outstanding at end of 1940)...					102
" " Notices complied with by Council in default					6

2. HOUSING NUISANCES.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed.					6
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...		3
Doors and windows repaired	...	...	...		2
Dirty rooms cleansed	...	...	...		70
Dampness remedied	...	...	...		1
Coppers repaired	...	...	...		1
Stoves renewed and repaired	...	...	...		4
Brickwork repaired	...	...	...		7
Yards paved and drained...	...	...	...		1
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...		1
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...		37

3. DRAINS, W.C's ETC.

Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	25
" ventilated	...	...	...	...	2
" cleared	...	...	...	...	60
" tested	...	...	...	...	14
Surface water drains laid	...	...	...	...	1
Rain water pipes disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	Nil
Houses connected to sewers	...	...	...	...	Nil
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	Nil
" constructed	...	...	...	...	1
" repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Pail closets converted to W.C's	...	...	...	...	Nil
Movable sink waste receptacles abolished	...	...	...	...	Nil
W.C's built	...	...	...	...	5
" repaired	...	...	...	...	6
" provided with flushing apparatus	...	...	...	...	5
Privies Built	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	7
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	Nil
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	Nil

4. BAKEHOUSES.

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	13
" of Inspections	...	...	...	...	34
" " Defects found	...	...	...	...	3
" " " remedied	...	...	...	...	3

5. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Number of Cowkeepers on Register	...	...	...	...	19
" " Retail Purveyors on Register	...	...	...	...	11
" " Registered Retailers with Milkshops	...	...	...	...	5
" " Registered Retailers with premises outside Urban District	...	...	...	...	2
" " Inspections	...	...	...	...	56
" " Defects found	...	...	...	...	8
" " " remedied	...	...	...	...	8

6. SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of premises registered or licensed before 1940.	7
" " inspections	12

7. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of Workshops	...	...	...	60
" " Workplaces	...	...	...	22
" " Inspections	...	...	...	92
" " Defects found	...	...	...	6
" " " remedied..	...	...	...	6
" " Workshops cleansed	....	...	...	8

8. WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of samples taken for analysis	...	11
" " " reported unfit..	...	Nil
" " houses connected to mains during year as the result of action taken		12

9. VARIOUS

Inspection of Butchers', Grocers', Fish, Fruit, Cream, etc., shops..	...	238
" under Shops' Acts	...	12
" of Van Dwellings, Sheds, Etc..	...	295
" " Schools	...	11
" " Stables	...	32
" " Air-Raid Shelters...	...	798
Visits to works in progress	...	259
Offensive accumulations removed...	...	56
Animals kept insanitary	...	6
Premises baited with rat poison...	...	143

The same difficulties in connection with labour and materials that served to reduce the amount of housing work in 1940 appertained during 1941, with perhaps one difference. The very large amount of first-aid repairs carried out in the central part of the town, including inside work, has probably brought those houses up to a better standard than they were previously. It will be noted that no galvanised iron dustbins were supplied during the year, and that the general nuisances, such as arise from the keeping of animals, offensive accumulations, rat infested premises etc., show an increase on previous years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Number of visits to Infected Houses	...	...	132
" " rooms disinfected following			
Scarlet Fever	...	...	39
Diphtheria	...	...	5
Measles	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	6
Cancer	...	...	8

20 cases of scarlet fever, and 3 Diphtheria were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

Number of articles disinfected in Steam Disinfector:-

	Civil	A.R.F.	Military
Mattresses	42	12	-
Pillows	103	-	-
Sheets	46	-	-
Blankets	108	77	12
Quilts	15	-	-
Beds	12	-	-
Eiderdowns	13	19	-
Bolsters	23	-	-
Miscellaneous	90	-	-

Total.....571

PUBLIC MORTUARY

	Males	Females
Number of Bodies admitted - Resident	1	4
Non-resident	10	1
	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>

Post-mortem exams	...	6
Inquests only	...	5

CAUSES OF DEATH:-

Natural Causes	...	...	...	7
Misadventure	...	...	...	2
Suicide	...	...	...	-
War deaths. British..	...	...	...	7
" " Enemy	...	...	...	-
			<u>16</u>	

The War Deaths include one soldier and three civilians killed in air raids, and the bodies of three seamen washed up on the shore, the latter being buried by the Local Authority in the War Graves section of the cemetery.

FOOD SUPPLY

The following tables show the amount of unsound food condemned during the year and the diseases in carcasses and organs: -

	lbs.		lbs.
Beef	79	Sugar	10
Mutton	24	Flour	2
Bacon	17	Misc: Cereals	17
Fish	179½	Apples	30
Eggs	79	Tomatoes	12
Cheese	15	Dried Fruit	11
Jam	87	Tinned Foods	75

Total 899 lbs.

Owing to the cessation of slaughtering in the Urban District the amount of diseased meat condemned is, of course, only a fraction of what is condemned in ordinary years, but the work of safeguarding the purity of the food supply, doubly important during conditions of war, is given the same strict attention as heretofore.

The number of animals inspected in shops is as follows:-

Beasts	38
Calves	15
Sheep	141
Pigs	36
	<u>230</u>

The totals of the number of animals inspected in the five preceeding years were:-

1940	1520
1939	5688
1938	5675
1937	6000
1936	6848

The number of certificates issued to food vendors for Ministry of Food purposes was 24.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND SLAUGHTERMEN

Before the war there were five annually licensed and two registered slaughter-houses in the district, but owing to the centralization of slaughtering by the Ministry of Food in Canterbury, for the period of the war, none of these premises are used for slaughtering or are licensed.

A number of licences for slaughtering under the Slaughtering of Animals Act 1933 continue to be issued; there are at present three slaughtermen so licensed.

MILK SUPPLY

There are nineteen cow-keepers and eleven retail purveyors of milk on the register; a reduction of one cow-keeper and one retail purveyor in the year. The number of licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936 are as follows:-

Tuberculin Tested	...	3	bottling licences
Pasteurised	...	1	dealer's licence

Twenty-six samples of milk from Accredited producers' premises and four from Tuberculin Tested producers, were submitted to the County Laboratory for examination. Six of the Accredited samples failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of premises approved for registration under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, for the purpose of manufacture or sale of preserved foods etc., was, at the end of the year, 59.

H O U S I N G

Number of Houses erected during the year:- NIL

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defences (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 260
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 260
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations ... 21
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 21
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of

those referred to under the preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 34

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... 34

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. - Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners... Nil

(b) By local authority in default of owners... Nil

B. - Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 2

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners... 2

(b) By local authority in default of owners... Nil

C. - Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... 1

(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil

D. - Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding:-

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 17
 (2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 23
 (3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 75
 (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... Nil
 (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 1
 (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 9

The recorded increase in overcrowding is not the result of any shortage of accommodation, but entirely due to nervousness of air-raids, which has resulted in families living together.

CLEARANCE AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS. The position with regard to these at the end of 1941 is that all properties have been demolished except in Clearance Areas Nos 15 and 16, and these have been held over until the cessation of hostilities.

	No of Houses demolished.	Buildings Closed.	Total Number of Persons displaced.
Formal action up to 31/12/30	12	-	43
Formal action since above date, per quarterly returns to Ministry of Health.	120	6	363
Informal action	38	13	85
TOTALS	170	19	491

DISINFECTATION. 19 houses were disinfested by my staff during the year, and fumigants and insecticide issued to owners or occupiers for the disinfestation of 18 houses. Four loads of verminous bedding and covers etc., were destroyed.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

Although this district is a neutral area there are still a number of Government evacuees remaining, and those within the

priority classes can arrange for private billets.

The numbers of each class in the district at the end of 1941 were as follows:-

Unaccompanied children (remaining from first Government Evacuation Scheme).....6

Unaccompanied children received in the district since the end of 1940.....6

Persons from Evacuation Areas,
(Defence Regulations)

Men..... 8

Women..... 67

Children.. 67

Total: 142

Evacuated persons received into Whitstable and those who have returned home during 1941:-

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Returned</u>
Men	2	1
Women	6	5
Children. ...	2	18

Persons rendered homeless by air-raids:-

Men 62

Women 121

Children. ... 100

Total: 283

TOTAL:..... 437

D R A I N A G E.

There are two cesspools in the old urban district, all other property being connected to the sewers. 883 houses in the added area are also connected to the sewers; 133 to the South Tankerton sewer, 187 to the North Tankerton sewer, 169 to the Chestfield sewer, 264 to the Swalecliffe sewer and the remainder into extensions of the urban sewerage system.

For the remainder of the added area, the following table shows the means of drainage provided:-

AREA	Cesspools taking			Premises without sink drainage	Pail closets	Privy middens
	W.C's and waste water	Waste water only	Sink waste receptacles			
Swalecliffe	7	1	3	-	7	-
Chestfield	43	-	14	6	18	-

AREA	Cesspools taking			Premises without sink drainage	Pail closets	Privy middens
	W.C's and waste water	Waste water only	Sink waste receptacles			
Brought forward:-	50	1	17	6	25	-
Radfall	13	1	47	3	48	2
South Street	16	-	1	4	6	-
Millstrood	40	-	13	5	14	-
Canterbury Road (including Willow Wood & Wraike Hill)	79	9	36	9	57	2
Seasalter:-						
(a) Joy Lane to Jolly Sailor	32	-	2	-	2	-
(b) Granville Estate & Seasalter Cliff	81	1	24	4	40	-
(c) Jolly Sailor & U.D.Boundary	47	5	88	1	95	-
Yorkletts	49	32	1	2	36	-
TOTAL	407	49	229	34	323	4

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Financial data for house refuse collection and disposal are for the year ended 31st March 1942.

HOUSE REFUSE. At the outbreak of War a weekly collection of house refuse was commenced throughout the urban district instead of the twice weekly collection hitherto undertaken. The vehicles available for refuse collection consist of one 10 cu.yd. $3\frac{1}{2}$ -ton S.D.Freighter, one 7 cu.yd. $2\frac{1}{2}$ -ton Freighter, and one 6 cu.yd. Freighter purchased in 1927.

REFUSE DISPOSAL. The whole of the refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping at Yorkletts. The work continues to be carried out in strict accordance with the Ministry's rules. This service is now part of the Public Health activities of the Local Authority and incorporated in my Department.

The principal items salvaged are as under:-

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Paper	65	10	8	24
Ferrous metals	25	18	-	-
Non-ferrous metals	-	7	-	-
Rags	-	9	2	12
Bones (Household)	3	19	-	25
Bottles and jars		89 dozen		
Broken glass	4	13	5	-
Rubber		16	3	-
Kitchen waste	5	10	-	-

The total quantity of refuse collected and disposed of was 2079½ tons, the weights for the three previous years being shown below:

		(1940-1)	(1939-40)	(1938-9)
House Refuse	1975½ tons.	(2131)	(3119)	(4021)
Trade Refuse	33 "	(61)	(93)	(312)
Street Sweepings	13 "	(56)	(99)	(121)
Miscellaneous	58 "	(21)	(98)	(132)

The quantity of refuse collected shows a progressive reduction on pre-War figures. There is also a slight reduction on the weights of principal materials salvaged; not from any want of effort in collecting, however.

FINANCIAL DATA FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MARCH 1942.

R E V E N U E.

	£.	s.	d.
Trade Refuse and Salvage ...	453.	14.	5.
Highways Dept.			
Collection of Street Sweepings.	10.	0.	0.
	463.	14.	5.

EXPENDITURE

<u>Collection</u>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Labour	767.	12.	0.			
Garage Rent.	13.	18.	3.			
Repairs	60.	7.	11.			
Tyres	19.	1.	8.			
Insurances..	10.	0.	5.			
Licence Duty	105.	0.	0.			
Loan Repayments... ..	294.	9.	9.			
Materials... ..	10.	13.	0.			
Advertising (Salvage Campaign)... ..	3.	11.	6.			
Petrol & Lubricants	217.	9.	10.	1502.	4.	4.

<u>Disposal</u>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Labour	343.	2.	6.			
Rates & Tithe	5.	8.	0.			
Income Tax..	3.	17.	6.			
Materials... ..	14.	12.	9.			
Loan Repayments... ..	14.	3.	4.			
Payment to Kent War Agricultural Executive Committee... ..	20.	0.	0.	401.	4.	1.
				1903.	8.	5.
Less Revenue				463.	14.	5.
				£1439.	14.	0.

1. Total Refuse in Tons	2079½ tons.
2. Population	12,240
3. Area	8,283 acres.
4. Weight per 1,000 population per working day, in cwts.	13 cwts.
5. Number of houses and premises visited.	5,545
6. Average length of haul	3.25 miles.
7. Petrol consumption	2,226 gallons.
8. Hours vehicles worked	4,267 hours.

There is a small reduction in expenditure from last year as well as a slightly decreased refuse yield, but increased wages, the cost of petrol etc., has served to keep the tonnage cost relatively high, namely 13s./10.1d.

TOWN AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This service is now part of the Public Health activities of the local authority and incorporated in my Department.

Expenditure during the year 1941/2 was as follows:-

Petrol etc.	£43. 18. 6.
Repairs & maintenance of vehicles	15. 19. 7.
Buildings	10. 8. 0.
Garage rent	7. 16. 8.
	<u>£76. 2. 4.</u>

The amount received in fees to 31/3/42 was:-

£226. 14. 6.

The following is a summary of the journeys made during the year:-

Cottage Hospital	152
Infectious Disease Hospital:-	
Whitstable cases..	25
Herne Bay " ..	18
Margate " ..	5
Ramsgate " ..	3
To Eastry..	<u>1</u> 52
Canterbury Hospital..	26
Nursing Homes ..	11
Mortuary ..	12
Military Case.	1
Public Assistance cases ..	39
Air-Raid Casualties..	6
Private Journeys (including four to London)	<u>30</u>
TOTAL:	<u>329</u>

The mileage was 4728.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding this eighteenth Annual Report of the Urban

District of Whitstable, I wish to say that, of necessity, many lesser activities have been omitted and the report kept to a minimum of detail, but these duties unmentioned go on as before, as well as new and more onerous duties brought in by the war.

I pay tribute to the unremitting attention, enthusiasm and loyalty of my staff, and also to the members of the Civil Defence Staff who have given me so much help; and of Dr. Etheridge, Medical Officer of Health, I can only say that our relationship grows more understanding and cordial as the years go by.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.R.A.MARTIN.

M.R.S.I., A.M.I.S.E., etc.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.